

An overworked mechanic who didn't place a safety pin in a hydraulic bolt of the tail rotor of a U.S. Marine Corps CH-53D was blamed for its crash as it approached the Marines' Futema AB on Okinawa last August. An investigation conducted by a joint Japan-U.S. committee said the mechanic had worked 17 hr. a day for three consecutive days during the period the helicopter was being maintained.

There were no serious injuries, but the helicopter was destroyed by fire. 